

Southern Star Softball League
Regular Board Meeting
North Mankato Police Cenex
Sunday August 5, 2018

Present: Brian DeVos, Joel Schmidt, Jan Schwanke
Absent: Jon Thompson

Several Communities Present

The fall meeting was called to order by President Brian DeVos at 5:00pm.

Introductions of communities

Financial Report--Joel presented the financial report. Balance in checking is \$13,234.59

New Communities:

Redwood Falls

Albert Lea – AD emailed 1 time have not heard from them since

Seigl Township – Sending them to Essig & New Ulm

Medford?

Need a reliable contact for every community so email is where it needs to go.

Need to make sure coach contact information is updated and correct when sent out in timely manner

Youth First:

Mark Arjes spoke about program, 3rd year doing, some communities will be doing it all season long but majority will only be doing at year end tournaments. Working on recruiting and retaining officials.

Twins Game August 6 not enough tickets available

Only option was Sept. 12th, night game for 14/16/18 but school night

Only 10s & 12s will attend Moon Dogs see how this goes this year

3:30pm team check

4:00pm youth awards

5:00pm gate opens

Walk around park

How are teams selected to attend game?:

Teams needed to play in 4 games of the tournament and all teams that got moved up to play in upper division and received 3 good marks get. No 0's from umpires, will discuss next year for those not getting to play in 4 games.

Motion to raise league fees to \$300.00 and \$5.00 will go to Youth 1st

M/S/C

League Fees:

8u - \$25.00 for Southern Star Communities, \$50.00 for non-Southern Star

We are down to 13 teams, Lake Crystal is doing in house don't want to travel it's more like t-ball

10u & Up - \$300.00 includes mandatory year end qualifier tournament

State Tournament Fee – Separate \$210.00 check (if possible) per team going – due with registration fees, will hold check

League Schedule:

10u & 12u Don't like 2 night a week

10u - You can only play in your school district/draw area. Both towns need a player release form signed by both teams to play in a different town.

<https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/resources/readablewritable-forms>

12u and up – Open enrollment there are no boundaries, they can play where they like without having to be released.

Neutral Site Games (N/S):

Want all on 1 schedule right away

Play your teams up if you want

Motion was made to break 16/18 only by East/West and do NS, you can still choose M/W or T/TH – 16 yes M/S/C

14u - same motion 7 yes 10 no - motion didn't passed

10u & 12u - keep same as previous year

Tournament Issues:

Email – Jeff Baker – 14u they always get bracket that drops

Once schedule is sent out the bracket is final, if communities drop after that bye's are put in

Motion to double the fee by June 1st if a team drops out of qualifier tournament M/S/C
Fee will be added to following year registration

How can we do brackets:

Random draw?

1 bracket per age group?

Seed all teams

16/18 All brackets, seed all teams, 1 bracket, place top 4 then random draw for all the for rest - passed

14u/12u/10u – 1 bracket passed

3 game guarantee

14/16/18 pool play then tournament

Drop Friendship game:

Field issue this year

10s/12s/14s keep

16s/18s drop

State Tournament:

Fee \$210.00 no change

If playing in National Tournament you MUST PLAY in the state tournament

Rule Changes:

8u Coach Pitch – 4 pitches then coach comes in

10u – 60 minute games, no international rule

12u - 65 minute games, international rule

14u/16u/18u - 70 minute games, international rule

Qualifier Tournament:

Location stand for 2019 will vote at year end meeting

2019 Year End Qualifier Dates MANDATORY TO ATTEND:

8u - July 13th - New Ulm

10u - June 22nd & June 23rd - New Ulm

12u Upper teams - June 22nd & June 23rd - Lake Crystal

12u Lower teams - June 22nd & June 23rd - Windom

14u & 16u/18u - July 13th & 14th – Caswell

State Tournament Dates:

10u & 12u July 13-14

14u, 16u & 18u July 20-21

USA Softball Nationals July 25-28

MOA Championships August 1-4

501c3:

Tax ID done

Articles of Incorporation – needs to be signed and filed

File for 501c3 with Federal Government

Once approved by the Federal Government then apply to the state for tax exempt status

Proposed Budget:

Attached M/S/C

Board Payments:

Brian & Joel \$1,935.00

Jan & Jon \$645.00

Next Year Meeting Dates:

Feb. 10th

April 7th

May 5th – Coaches meeting – suggestions how to get more people to attend, what to do? Jody Lutz, Sindra Kimball (SP?) (how to handle the mental side/parents)

August 4th

Other:

December 5-8th coaches training in Chicago – NFCA.org

New email address southernstarsoftball@outlook.com

Do not use an existing email sent out to reply back to us, make sure you change the subject line before sending out another email or we will miss.

The next meeting will be February 10, 2019 at 2:00pm location TBA

Meeting was declared adjourned at 7:33pm

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Schwanke
Communication Coordinator